(b) if so what are the steps contemplated to redress the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Bauxite Mining project of the Bharat Aluminium company at Gandhamardhan hill in Orissa

1265. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining project of the Bharat Aluminium Company at Gandhamardhan Hill in Orissa is in trouble due to the attitude of the Orissa Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to end the controversy and to settle matters with the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) (a) No Sir.

(b) The work on the Project has been held up due to local agitation since December 1985. On the suggestion of the Govt. of Orissa, an expert committee headed by Dr. B. D. Nagchoudhuri was appointed by the Govt. of India. After an in-depth study of the impact of the proposed development of Gandhamardhan Bauxite Project on ecology and environment of the area, the expert committee, *inter alia* recommended that the "bauxite mines in Gandhamardhan Hills be opened with as little de lay as possible." The Commitee also recommended to set up an Environmental Management Authority (E.M.A.) to ensure proper environmental protection measures The E.M.A. has been set up and it has met on three occasions. There is no controversy involving the State Govt. *vis-a-vis* the execution of the Project. Efforts are being made to resume work on the Project with the co-operation of the State Government.

Unauthorised use of scarce Newsprint

1266. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have found unauthorised use of scare newsprint which includes black marketing and falsification of circulation figures by M/s. Indian Express Group of Newspapers; and

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of investigations and the steps taken to prevent such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) During a check of circulation, some instances of loan of newsprint by one publication of the Group to another have come to the notice of the Government.

(c) Appropriate action as per rules is being considered.

Exploitation of women workers in unorganised sector

1267. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether women in the un-organised sector are being exploited mostly, with maximum work being extracted from them with minimum wages; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government ensure fair wages to these women workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (MWA) and the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 (ERA), apply to employments in the unorganised sector as well. While the MWA provides for the fixation and payment of minimum wages in scheduled employments, the ERA provides for the payment of equal wages to men and women for the same work or work of a